

Item #:	
Fiscal Impact:	N/A
Funding Source:	
Account #:	
Budget Opening Required:	

ISSUE:

Approval of Ordinance ZT-17-2008- Fighting Ordinance Text Change, which amends Sections 7-1-103, 7-2-131, 7-6-1002, 7-6-1012, 7-6-1103, and 7-6-1108 of Title 7 of the West Valley City Municipal Code.

SYNOPSIS:

With the growing support of fighting events in the media, small businesses in the City have desired to host fights at their place of business. Staff is proposing a text change to provide guidelines for fighting events to ensure that they occur in the correct zones within the City.

BACKGROUND:

This ordinance would add a definition to the ordinance for ‘unarmed combat’ that would include ultimate fighting, kick boxing, boxing, martial arts, or combative event. This would not include classes at a karate school or a similar instructional setting. The fighting event would be limited to permanent facilities with permanent fixed seating. The Planning Commission recommended approval of this ordinance if facilities were limited to a minimum of 2,000 fixed seats.

In addition, a series of requirements are already set forth in State Law to provide for the safety and security of the fighters and spectators. These requirements include keeping a doctor ringside, requiring an ambulance onsite, requiring fighters to have a physical before and after the match, requiring law enforcement officers onsite, and so on. These use of a facility for these events would require a conditional use permit in C-2, C-3, and M zones and would not be permitted in other zones. In addition, unarmed combat would be added to the regulations for reception halls that would require fighting events to be located at least 500 feet from any residential property line if the event was to go later than ten o’clock pm.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff suggests the approval of the proposed text change.

SUBMITTED BY:

John Janson, Planning Director
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